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In page 41, line 29, replace "PAE" with --PAGE--.

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel Claim 43 and add the following claim in its place:

Rule 129 CM 1. ~~51-53.~~ Recombinant, synthetic human interferon- β mutein, wherein the cysteine at position 17, numbered in accordance with native interferon- β , is deleted or replaced by a neutral amino acid, and wherein said mutein exhibits biological activity of native, human interferon- β .

Cancel claim 48.

In claim 52, second occurrence, renumber "52" to --53--.

In claims 50, 51, 52 and 53, change "43" to --53--.

In claims 50, 51, 52 and 53, delete "48".

REMARKS

By the present amendment the title and the specification have been amended to more accurately reflect the claimed subject matter of the application. Also, the updated status of parent application Serial No. 564,224 (which shall issue as a U.S. patent on May 21) has been indicated.

The remaining amendments to the specification are typographical. For example, the sequence in page 9, line 30 is obviously incorrect and the correct sequence from Example 3 has been inserted in its place. The amendments to page 30, lines 32 and 33, and page 41, simply correct spelling/typographical errors. The amendment to page 40, lines 25, 26 and 27 change mM to μ M. A similar experiment to Example 20 is described in Example 11, page 25 of the specification where MnSO_4 , ZnSO_4 and CuSO_4 are used in μ M amounts, not mM amounts. Those skilled in the fermentation art would know that such metal salts are to be used in trace amounts in growth medium for E. coli. Accordingly, the requested amendment to Example 20, page 40, should be entered. Finally, the amendments to page 31 merely correct a typographical error and insert a reference to a patent describing the referenced compound, acyclovir.

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